In the claims:

Please amend claims 1, 25 and 28, and add new claims 48 and 49 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method for automatically providing enhanced and secure access to a group of users initiated by a non-technically trained user on a computer network without intervention of information systems personnel, the method comprising the steps of:

    1)   receiving a request from a non-technically trained user of a visitor based network (VBN) to establish a group of users in the VBN, the request including a group identifier which includes a group name and password provided by the user and identifies the group;

    2)   configuring, in response to the request, a network infrastructure of the VBN to support the group without intervention of information systems personnel;

    3)   allowing other non-technically trained users of the VBN to join the group by using the group name and password;

    4)   further configuring the network infrastructure of the VBN to support the joining users without intervention of information systems personnel; and

    5)   dissolving the group based on predetermined rules including a predetermined rule to dissolve the group at expiry of a predetermined period.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the group of users is composed of one or more users.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the network infrastructure includes a physical local area network.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of configuring a network includes the step of establishing a virtual local area network on a physical local area network.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of configuring a network infrastructure includes the step of configuring switches that are IEEE802.1Q compliant.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the step of configuring switches includes a use of Q-tag.

7 - 8 (Cancelled)

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of further configuring the network infrastructure includes the step of configuring a switch port that a joining user is connected to with a VLAN associated with the group.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of dissolving the group includes revoking the group identifier.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the step of dissolving further includes the step of returning ports of switches supporting a VLAN associated with the dissolved group to a default state and removing all references to the VLAN associated with the dissolved group from the switches.

12 - 24 (Cancelled)

25. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium containing computer instructions for executing in a computer of a method for automatically providing enhanced and secure access to a group of users initiated by a non-technically trained user on a computer network without intervention of information systems personnel, the method comprising the steps of:

    1)   receiving a request from a non-technically trained user_of a visitor based network (VBN) to establish a group of users_in the VBN, the request including

a group identifier which includes a group name and password provided by the user and identifies the group;

2)   configuring a network infrastructure of the VBN to support the group without intervention of information systems personnel;

3)   allowing other non-technically trained users of the VBN to join the group by using the group name and password;

4)   further configuring the network infrastructure of the VBN to support the joining users without intervention of information systems personnel; and

5)   dissolving the group based on predetermined rules including a predetermined rule to dissolve the group at expiry of a predetermined period.

26 - 27 (Cancelled)

28. (Currently amended) A server to provide enhanced and secure access to a group of users initiated by a non-technically trained user on a computer network without intervention of information systems personnel, the server comprising:

1)   a registration module to receive from a non-technically trained user of a visitor based network (VBN) a request to create a group of users in the VBN, the request including a group identifier which includes a group name and password provided by the user and identifies a group of users, and to receive from other non-technically trained users of the VBN a request to join the group using the group name and password;

2)   a registration driver to register the user and the other users to access the group of users, assign the group of users and maintain registration information and state information of a network infrastructure of the VBN associated with the group of users according to the group identifier in response to the requests from the user without intervention of information systems personnel, and to dissolve the group based on predetermined rules including a predetermined rule to dissolve the group at expiry of a predetermined period;

3)   a module to assign VLAN tags to the group based on registration status; and

Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP   Page 4

PAGE 5/12 * RCVD AT 2/12/2007 12:40:47 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-3/20 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID: * DURATION (mm-ss):03-10

4)   a packet driver module to insert/remove VLAN tags from packets based on the registration status.

29. (Original) The server of claim 28 wherein the VLAN tags are Q-tags of IEEE802.1Q .

30. (Original) The server of claim 28 wherein the state information of a network infrastructure is information on the switches that are IEEE802.1Q compliant.

31. (Original) The server of claim 28 wherein the module to construct VLAN tags comprises the SNMP module.

32. (Original) The server of claim 28 wherein the module further comprises a web based user interface.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously presented) The server of claim 28 further comprising a switch commander for configuring a network infrastructure to support the group without intervention of information systems personnel in response to the request for creating the group of users.

35. (Previously presented) The server of claim 28 wherein the registration module further receives from the user a request for showing information associated with the group of users.

36. (Previously presented) The server of claim 28 wherein the registration module further receives from the user a request for deleting the group of users.

37 - 47 (Cancelled)

Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP   Page 5

PAGE 6/12 * RCVD AT 2/12/2007 12:40:47 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-3/20 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID: * DURATION (mm-ss):03-10

48. (Newly added) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein

   the receiving step receives the request including a usage period provided by the user; and

   the dissolving step dissolves the group when the usage period expires.

49. (Newly added) The server as claimed in claim 28 wherein

   the registration module receives the request including a usage period provided by the user; and

   the registration driver dissolves the group when the usage period expires.